

BEFORE THE NEBRASKA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

In the Matter of the Commission,) Application No. 911-038/
on its own motion, seeking to) PI-142
investigate the reimbursement of)
wireless carrier Phase II costs) ORDER OPENING DOCKET AND
from the Enhanced Wireless 911) SEEKING COMMENTS
Fund.)
) Entered: November 13, 2008

BY THE COMMISSION:

The Commission opens the present docket on its own motion in order to investigate the reimbursement of wireless carrier Phase II costs from the Enhanced Wireless 911 Fund (Fund) through the permanent funding mechanism.

Currently, wireless carriers receive reimbursement for Phase I implementation costs which include costs for database upgrades, trunking infrastructure and purchase, installation, and testing in addition to recurring costs for database management and operation and maintenance of trunks and circuits. On or about February 29, 2008, NE Colorado Cellular, Inc., d/b/a Viaero Wireless (Viaero), filed an application for funding (Application), seeking cost recovery for recurring and non-recurring costs for equipment, software, and associated expenses for the implementation of Phase II wireless service in Buffalo, Hall and Keith Counties. The Commission entered an order denying Viaero's Application on November 13, 2008.

Viaero is the first wireless carrier to make such a request. Several other carriers have implemented surcharges to self-recover expenses through subscribers and have chosen not to seek reimbursement from the Fund. In the development of a permanent funding mechanism, the Commission seeks to determine whether costs incurred by wireless carriers for equipment, software, installation, maintenance, and associated expenses necessary for the implementation of Phase II enhanced wireless 911 service should be reimbursed by the Fund and if so, by what factor.

The Commission seeks comment from all interested parties on the following:

1. Whether the funding mechanism shall include a factor to reimburse wireless carriers for the cost of equipment, software, installation, maintenance and associated expenses for the implementation and provision of Phase II enhanced wireless 911 service? Please explain the justification behind your comments.

2. If a factor should be included, please describe elements that should be considered in determining the factor and the level of cost recovery (e.g. level of self-recovery by the individual carriers through surcharges or rates for service or handsets, etc.)

Any interested party wishing to file comments regarding the issues presented herein shall do so no later than **February 13, 2009**. All parties filing comments shall file one original and eight (8) paper copies and email on electronic copy to angela.melton@psc.ne.gov.

The Commission will schedule a workshop for discussion of these issues at a date later to be determined.

O R D E R

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED by the Nebraska Public Service Commission that the above-captioned docket be, and it is hereby, opened to investigate the reimbursement of wireless carrier Phase II costs from the Enhanced Wireless 911 Fund.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that any interested party wishing to file comments on the issues presented herein shall do so no later than **February 13, 2009**. All parties filing comments shall file one original and eight (8) paper copies and email one electronic copy to angela.melton@psc.ne.gov.

MADE AND ENTERED at Lincoln, Nebraska, this 13th day of November, 2008.

NEBRASKA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

COMMISSIONERS CONCURRING:

Chair

ATTEST:

Deputy Director